c10

locking mechanism for locking the first and second doors in the closed position, and

anchoring mechanism for securely fastening the safe to a structure.

c11

81. (Amended) The safe of claim 39, wherein the housing further includes a back wall connected to the side walls, and to the top and bottom walls, such that: (i) one side wall is in opposing position relative to the other side wall, and the door mechanism is mounted to at least one of the side walls, (ii) the top wall is in opposing relation relative to the bottom wall, and (iii) the back wall is in opposing position relative to said opening into the interior of the enclosure and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

Please add the following new claims:

c12

87. (New) The safe of claim 65, wherein the divider is connected to the shelf.

88. (New) The safe of claim 67, wherein the divider is connected to the shelf.

REMARKS

Before this amendment Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 17, 18, 20, 23, 25, 36, 37, 39, 42-46, 51, 53, 54 and 56-86 were pending in the above-referenced patent application. Through this Reply, dependent claims 63-64 have been canceled, and new dependent claims 87-88 have been added. Claims 1, 4, 6, 20, 23, 25, 39, 54, 61, 62, 72 and 81 have been amended to further clarify the differences between the present invention and the cited references. No new matter has been added. A marked-up version of the amended claims, showing the amendments is enclosed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1, 4, 53, 54, 56, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67 and 70 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Wakeman. The rejections are traversed, and allowance of the claims as amended is respectfully requested because Wakeman does not disclose all of the limitations of the

claims. As per Claim 1, Wakeman discloses a slot 17 for coins and an opening 18 for bills on the top of a bank casing (see page 2, lines 58-87, Fig. 1). Bills that are folded and inserted into the slot 17 fall onto the bottom surface 16. Further, coins are inserted into the opening 18 and fall onto the bottom surface 16 through the chute *s* (Fig. 3). Specifically, the coins push the upper end 21b of the plate 21, tilting the plate 21 on hinges 22, creating a passage way between the plates 21and 19 of the chute *s*, and fall onto the second surface 16. The chute *s* is made up of the plates 19, 21 and the side flanges 20, without a bottom. Indeed the lower end 21a of plate 21 overlaps the plate 19 (Wakman, page 2, lines 74-87). Only the bottom surface 16 maintains objects put/dropped into the safe.

As such, Wakeman does not disclose "a first support surface to maintain a device thereon within the enclosure, ... a second support surface ... to receive and maintain thereon items inserted into the housing ..., wherein the housing includes a top wall and a bottom wall connected by side walls, such that the second support surface is connected to a side and/or bottom wall of the housing and is located between the top and bottom walls, and the first support surface and the second support surface are spatially offset" (Claim 1). Wakeman has only one support surface 16 for maintaining objects. There is no other support surface connected to a side and/or bottom wall, between the top and bottom walls.

Further, a safe according to Claim 1 includes "an aperture that allows inserting items into said enclosure", "second support surface located in relation to the aperture to receive and maintain thereon items inserted into the housing through the aperture", and a "port hole is located proximate the first support". Further, according to Claims 53 and 54, the "port hole and/or aperture are on side walls of the safe" (Claim 53), wherein the "bottom wall is used to support the safe" (Claim 54). By contrast , the slot 17 and opening 18 of Wakeman are on a top wall of the casing, opposing the bottom surface 16. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that rejections of claims 53-54, and all claims dependent therefrom, should be withdrawn. Further, the bottom surface 16 in Wakeman is simply a bottom wall, and not a second surface comprising a shelf connected to at least a side wall of the housing. Indeed, Wakeman does not disclose a shelf or a divider as claimed. Nor does Wakeman disclose a door attached to a sidewall of the housing, and

an opening and an aperture on a side wall, wherein the bottom wall supports the safe. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom, should be allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 17, 18, 20, 23, 36, 37, 72 and 86 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakeman in view of Israel. Claims 6, 9, 10, 25, 39, 42-44, 51, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 69, 71 and 73-58 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakeman in view of Israel and Gross. Claims 45 and 46 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakeman in view of Israel, Gross and List. The rejections are traversed because for reasons provided above, the claims as amended include limitations not disclosed by Wakeman and Israel, alone or in combination. Further, Israel is directed to a safe with interchangeable doors. As in Wakeman, the aperture 21 in Wakeman is on top of the safe, and not on a sidewall. Even if the references are combined, the result would be a safe with aperture on a top wall, not on side walls, as claimed. And, Israel does not include a port hole. Similar to Wakeman, Israel does not provide first and second surfaces, and an aperture so that items can be dropped onto the second surface through the aperture. Gross provides a safe with jambs that make the safe tight, and fire proof. There is no shelving in Gross as in the claimed invention for receiving objects.

Further, there is no motivation to combine the multitude of the references the Patent Office has utilized, to arrive at the present invention. The claimed invention provides a safe primarily designed for storing electronic devices, such as portable computers and cell phones, with the ability to pass a power cord therethrough to power such devices with the safe doors closed. There is also a slot for dropping objects into the safe. The references, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Further, none of the cited references provides a motivation to be combined with other references to solve the problems that are alleviated by the present invention. Indeed, the problems solved by the present invention did not even exist at the time period the cited references were filed. Therefore, for at least these reasons, rejection of claims under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn, and the claims as amended should be allowed.

Marked-up Version of the Amendments

1. (Thrice Amended) A security safe for storing one or more electrical devices, comprising:

a housing defining a security enclosure, the housing including an opening into an interior of said enclosure for placing items into, and removing items from, said enclosure,

a door mechanism mounted to the housing for movement between opened and closed positions in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the door mechanism precludes access to said interior through said opening,

an aperture that allows inserting items into said enclosure through the aperture without moving said door mechanism into the opened position,

wherein the housing further includes:

a first support surface to maintain a device thereon within the enclosure,

a port hole defined in the housing, allowing passing at least a power cord therethrough for plugging into and powering at least one electrical device maintained by the first support surface in the safe when the door mechanism is in the closed position, wherein the port hole is located proximate the first support surface such that a power cord can straightforwardly reach, and be plugged into, an electrical device maintained by the first support surface,

a second support surface located in relation to the aperture to receive and maintain thereon items inserted into the housing through the aperture, and

wherein the housing includes a top wall[,] and a bottom wall connected by [and] side walls, such that the second support surface is connected to a side and/or bottom wall of the housing and is located between the top and bottom walls, and the first support surface and the second support surface are spatially offset.

53. (Twice amended) The safe of claim 1, wherein:

the safe includes three side walls, and one of the side walls comprises a back wall, such that: (i) the other two side walls are in opposing position relative to each other, and the door mechanism is essentially mounted to at least one of said opposing side walls, (ii) the top wall is in opposing relation relative to the bottom wall, and (iii) the back wall is in opposing position relative to said opening into the interior of the enclosure;

said port hole and/or aperture are [is] on [a] side walls [wall] of the safe, and the bottom wall is used to support the safe;

the second support surface comprises a shelf connected to at least two side walls; and

the safe further comprises a divider connected substantially transverse to the shelf and/or a sidewall, wherein the divider defines a storage area on the shelf on each side of the divider.

54. (Twice amended) The safe of claim 1, wherein said aperture [and] and/or port hole are on the side walls of the safe, and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

61. (Amended) The safe of claim [56] 58, wherein the divider is connected to the shelf, and the shelf is connected to at least two side walls, above [second support surface comprises a shelf connected to] the bottom wall of the housing.

62. (Amended) The safe of claim [61] 60, [further comprising] wherein [a] the divider [oriented substantially transverse] is connected to the shelf [, wherein the divider defines a storage area on the shelf on each side of the divider].

Claims 63 and 64 have been canceled.

4. (Twice Amended) The safe of claim 56, wherein the door mechanism comprises at least a door attached to [the housing by one or more hinges] a side wall such that the door is movable between said opened and closed positions, said aperture and/or port hole are on the side walls of the safe and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

6. (Thrice Amended) The safe of claim 56, wherein the door mechanism comprises a first door and a second door, each door attached to [the housing by one or more hinges] a side wall whereby each door can swing between an opened position and a closed position in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the first and second doors cooperatively preclude

access to said interior through said opening, said aperture and/or port hole are on the side walls of the safe and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

20. (Thrice Amended) A security safe for storing one or more electrical devices, comprising:

a housing defining a security enclosure, the housing including an opening into an interior of said enclosure for placing items into, and removing items from, said enclosure,

a door mechanism mounted to the housing for movement between opened and closed positions in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the door mechanism precludes access to said interior through said opening,

a first support surface to maintain a device within the enclosure,

a port hole providing access into said enclosure for passing at least a power cord therethrough for powering at least one electrical device on the first support surface when the door mechanism is in the closed position, wherein the port hole is located proximate the first support surface such that a power cord can straightforwardly reach, and be plugged into, an electrical device maintained by the first support surface,

the door mechanism further including at least an aperture for inserting items into said enclosure without moving said door mechanism into the opened position;

a second support surface located in relation to the aperture to receive items inserted into the housing through the aperture, and

wherein the housing includes a top wall[,] and a bottom wall connected by [and] side walls, such that the second support surface is connected to a side and/or bottom wall of the housing and is located between the top and bottom walls, and the first support surface and the second support surface are spatially offset.

72. (Amended) The safe of claim 20, wherein the safe includes three side walls, and one of the side walls comprises a back wall, such that: (i) the other two side walls are in opposing position relative to each other, and the door mechanism is essentially mounted to at least one of said opposing side walls, (ii) the top wall is in opposing relation relative to the bottom wall, and (iii) the back wall is in opposing position relative to said opening into the interior of the enclosure

and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

23. (Thrice Amended) The safe of claim 72, wherein the door mechanism comprises a door attached to [the housing] a side wall by one or more hinges such that the door is movable between said opened and closed positions, wherein the aperture is defined in the door.

25. (Thrice Amended) The safe of claim 72, wherein the door mechanism comprises a first door and a second door, the aperture being defined in one of the first and second doors, each door attached to [the housing] a side wall by one or more hinges whereby each door can swing between an opened position and a closed position in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the first and second doors cooperatively preclude access to said interior through said opening.

39. (Thrice Amended) A security safe for storing one or more electrical devices, comprising:

a housing defining a security enclosure, the housing including an opening into an interior of said enclosure for placing items into, and removing items from, said enclosure,

a door mechanism mounted to the housing for movement between opened and closed positions in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the door mechanism precludes access to said interior through said opening,

the door mechanism comprising a first door and a second door, an aperture being defined in one of the first and second doors such that items can be inserted into said enclosure, each door attached to the housing by one or more hinges whereby each door can swing between an opened position and a closed position in relation to said opening, wherein in the closed position the first and second doors cooperatively preclude access to said interior through said opening,

a first support surface to maintain a device within the enclosure,

a port hole providing access into said enclosure for passing at least a power cord therethrough for powering at least one electrical device on the first support surface when the door mechanism is in the closed position, wherein the port hole is located proximate the first support surface such that a power cord can straightforwardly reach, and be plugged into, an electrical

device maintained by the first support surface,

a second support surface located in relation to said aperture in of the doors, to receive items inserted into the housing through the aperture,

wherein the housing includes a top wall and bottom wall connected by side walls, and the second support surfaces is connected to a side and/or bottom wall of the housing and is located between the top and bottom walls, and the first support surface and the second support surface are spatially offset,

a divider mounted substantially transverse to the second support surface, wherein the divider defines a storage area on the second support surface on each side of the divider,

locking mechanism for locking the first and second doors in the closed position, and

anchoring mechanism for securely fastening the safe to a structure.

81. (Amended) The safe of claim 39, wherein the housing further includes a back wall connected to the side walls, and to the top and bottom walls, such that: (i) one side wall is in opposing position relative to the other side wall, and the door mechanism is mounted to at least one of the side walls, (ii) the top wall is in opposing relation relative to the bottom wall, and (iii) the back wall is in opposing position relative to said opening into the interior of the enclosure and the bottom wall is used to support the safe.

New claims 87 and 88 and have been added.